



# Memorandum

**TO:** Historic Landmarks Commission

**FROM:** Courtney Damkroger

**SUBJECT:** Discussion and Action Regarding the  
Inclusion of the Hassler Barn at Silver  
Creek Road in the Historic Resources Inventory

**DATE:** July 30, 2002

---

**APPROVED:**

**DATE:**

---

## **BACKGROUND**

The Hassler Ranch, including the barn, was evaluated in environmental documents for the Cerro Plata Residential and Golf Course project. The historic ranch house was demolished prior to the residential project and all but the barn have or will be demolished. The barn was proposed for retention and rehabilitation as a part of the project. The barn is not included in the Historic Resources Inventory. It is currently undergoing rehabilitation and restoration and staff is recommending inclusion in the Inventory at this time, in part, to facilitate the use of the State Historic Building Code.

## **ANALYSIS**

The attached material, excerpts from the environmental documents, provide background on the barn. The Hassler Ranch was founded in 1856 by John Hassler whose family continued to own and operate it until 1970. The date of the barn's construction is not known, but a 1998 evaluation by historic consultants Carey & Co. states that the barn predates 1880 and is a rare intact example of a once common barn type. Carey & Co. also noted that the barn appears to be eligible for the National Register under Criterion C for its design and construction, which would automatically make it eligible for the California Register as well.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Planning staff recommends that the Historic Landmarks Commission add the historic Hassler Barn to the San Jose Historic Resources Inventory.

Courtney Damkroger  
Historic Preservation Officer

Attachment

PBCE002/Historic/8-07-02/item 7h hassler barn